About Open Performance Academy (OPA)

Open Performance Academy (OPA) was established in 2018 as a knowledge and practice platform for artists and theoreticians working with and from performance. Both nationally and internationally, performance art is receiving increasing attention within the museum context. Outside the official educational institutions, the scope for research, reflection and feedback is limited. OPA responds to this gap by offering a platform for research, experiment and reflection. Artists and theorists get the opportunity to show work in progress and to receive feedback from the audience. Conversely, the audience gets an insight into state of the art research within and to performance art. By focusing on both the artist and theoretician and the audience, OPA contributes to the development within art and the transfer of art and knowledge.

OPA considers itself as an open nomadic academy that cannot be limited by discipline, language or nationality and that values the conversation between makers and thinkers, in which the audience plays a key role. By basing itself on a collective form of learning and making, OPA contributes to intercultural and interdisciplinary dialogue.

After a successful first edition in the early spring of 2018, consisting of a series of 5 meetings and 1 closing presentation day, OPA joins forces with WORM UBIK in Rotterdam in the period from September to December 2018. WORM is pre-eminently the place where the relations between knowledge production, media and culture can be investigated.

OPA was founded by Ronald Bal (independent artist) and Nathanja van den Heuvel (assistant professor and PhD student of philosophy at Leiden University).